REASONS

Humbly Offered for the

PASING a BILL

FOR THE

Hindering the Home Conſumption

OF

EAST-INDIA

Silks, Bengals

&c.

And an Anſwer to the Author of ſeveral Objections againſt the ſaid Bill, in a Book, Entituled, *An Eſſay on the* East-India *Trade.*

By T. S. *a Weaver in* London, *who would have the Nobility and Gentry of* England *have a True Light into that Affair.*

WITH

A *Poſtſcript*, containing the *French* King's Decree concerning *India* Manufactures.

London, Printed by *J. Bradford* in *New-ſtreet* without *Biſhopſgate*, 1697.

25:02

REASONS Humbly Offered, &c.

I. THeſe Goods are directly oppoſite to the Employment of Two Hundred and Fifty Thouſand Manufactorers, and to the Conſumption of Sixteen or Eighteen Thouſand Packs of Long Fine *Wool* in one Year, of the growth of the largeſt Sheep that feed in Paſture-Ground; which *Wool* is not uſed in making of *Cloth*: Theſe number of People are Weavers, Throwſters, Winſters, Yarn-Men, Wool-Combers, Hot-Preſſers, Callenders, Fullers, Spinſters; whoſe Dwellings are in the Cities of *London*, *Norwich*, *Canterbury*; in the Counties of *Suffolk*, *Norfolk*, *Cambridgſhire*, *Hartfordſhire*, *Eſſex*, *Norhamptonſhire*, ſome parts of *Yorkshire*; In many places beſides in the ſeveral Counties of *England*: The Wool grows moſt in *Lincolnſhire*,

colnſhire, *Leiceſterſhire*, *Norhampton-ſhire*, *Bedfordſhire*, *Rumney Marſh*, and of Paſture-Sheep in all Counties, which, by reaſon of the length of its Staple, is not uſed, or can well be uſed to make *Cloth*; but is generally ſold to *Norfolk*, St. *Edmondsbury* in *Suffolk*, to be made in thoſe and other Counties into Yarn, and in Yarn carried to *Norwich* and *London* to be wrought up into Stuffs made of all Wool, or mixt with Silk, one Pound of Silk to eight Pound of Wool.

II. Employment of theſe People, is the only way left to give a value to the Land in thoſe parts, where they inhabit; for poor working People ſpend all or moſt of what they get by working upon the produce of Land; and you will always find according to the number of People, and according to what they get, ſo is the Price of Land; and it is evident all over the World, where the Price of Wages is low, the value of Land is little; and where many People live, Land is moſt valuable, which is the true Reaſon that

that Land near *London*, and other Towns, where Manufactories are ſettled, is three four, ſix times as valuable, as Land of as good a natural ſoyl, where there is few Inhabitants or Navigable Rivers.

III. Theſe poor People, when employed, highly conduce to the Happineſs and Safety of *England*. If any Perſon will pleaſe to take a view of *England*, before it was a Manufactory, they will find that this Iſland was often inſulted over, Ravaged and Plundred; yea, Conquered by *Scots*, *Danes*, *Normans*, *Saxons*, &c. But ſince *England* hath been a Place of Manufactury, no Neighbour hath dared to Inſult our Coaſt, or Invade us without our own conſent; for theſe poor People are not only themſelves ready to oppoſe, but by their Imployment, give Incouragement to Navigation, and to breeding of Sea men to navigate our Coaſting-Veſſels to ſupply their neceſſities with Coals, Corn, Malt, Cheeſe, Butter, &c. by which means the King always hath Sea-men

ready to furnish his Men of War, that are the Bulworks of the Nation, and our Merchants are supplyed with Sea-men for longer Voyages.

IV. I would shew the Opposition between this Trade to *India*, and the *English* Manufactories, and that so it is Detrimental to the Nation; The Opposition lies in its Home Consumption and Foreign Exportation: The Silks, Bingalls, *&c.* from *India*, are used for the same Uses our Manufactures are, and so discourage Trades-men from driving larger Trade, it being uncertain when these Ships will come in, and uncertain what sort of Commodities they bring: Every Trades-man lies liable to be undone, if he venture to inlarge his Trade, as is plain by many hundred Instances in twenty Years space: And as to the Foreign Exportation, these Foreign Manufactures have Spoiled our Foreign Trade for Fine Stuffs made in *Norwich* and *London*, for Womens wear into many places for Crape, *&c.* And for our *American* Plantations, all Persons dealing there,

there, know they will imitate the Gentry of *England*, and thoſe Merchant's Commiſſions run for Faſhionable Commodities: Now if our Nobility and Gentry wear *India* Manufactures, our *Weſt India* Plantations will wear the ſame; and it is generally true, ſo far as the Honour of any Nation extends, ſo far what they wear, will be in Faſhion. This was the Policy of *France*, who deſigning to make themſelves Great, diſcouraged the Wear and Conſumption of Foreign Commodities, and Incouraged the wearing their own, both at Home and alſo in *England*, by Preſents to the *Engliſh* Court, well knowing what the Court did wear, the Cities and Countries will not be long without: And by the way, it is my opinion, the *French* King and the Manufacturers of *Lions*, will ſpend a Hundred Thouſand Pounds to keep the Trade of *England* for Exporting their *Allamodes* and *Luteſtrings*.

But this is not all, the damage this *India* Trade doth, in reſpect to the Exportation of our *Engliſh* Manufactures;

for it greatly hinders our *Turkey* and *Italian* Merchants, who Export vaſt quantities of Woollen-Cloth, Serges, Purpetuanys, Stuffs, *&c.* and the greateſt of their Returns are in Raw and Thrown Silk, and Grogrom Yarn, which they bring home to *London*, expecting a Market among Throwſters and Weavers; But theſe Tradesmen being undone by *India* Manufactures, are not able to buy theſe Commodities, and ſo theſe Advantagious Merchant, by having their Stocks lie dead upon their Hands, can buy no more Cloth, *&c.* And the Cloathier, and Serge-maker, and thouſands of Families that do depend upon them, much Impoveriſhed, and many of them reduced to live upon Charity, to the great damage of the Landlords and Farmers, who, by Law, are obliged to Relieve them from their Lands.

V. This Trade to *India*, carries away from *England* great quantities of Bulloin and Treaſure, which is not only the Sinews of War, but the Medium of Trade

Trade and Commerce: For Mony in the Body politick, is as Blood in the Body natural, giving Life to every part; as for Inſtance, in an other way of Trade, our Exporting-Merchant carries away our Manufactures, and for his Returns, (ſuppoſing it be to *Spain*) he brings *Spaniſh* Wool, and Pieces of Eight: theſe Pieces of Eight or other Bullion, made into *Engliſh* Coin, go from the Merchant to the Trades-man, from him to the Weaver, Sherman, Spinſters, *&c.* From them all to the Farmer; from the Farmer to the Landlord, and ſome part ſticks every where, which go to the Shopkeeper, and from him to the Merchant again, and the whole Nation is hereby eaſie; but if it go to the *Eaſt-Indies*, it never returns again: But this is not all, the Bulloin in *England* will not ſerve this Trade, tho' it encourage the Clipping our Coin half away, we muſt go abroad to *Holland*, to *Hamborough*, to *Portugal*, *Cadis*, and where not, to take up Silver, and thereby run the Nation in Debt, and turn the Ballance of the Exchange

Exchange againſt *England*, and our better Merchants, and then they murmur againſt the Goverment.

I might give many other Reaſons for the Bill's paſſing into a Law, but I deſigning Brevity, will paſs to give an Anſwer to ſome Objections in a Book lately publiſhed: In anſwering which, I ſhall enter into the Heart of this Controverſie. This Book is filled up with Flouriſh, and Rhetorick, and Concluſions, from falſe Hypotheſis, that it is not eaſie at once Reading to graſp it; but my Time allowing no more, I ſhall do it as I can, not medling with any thing but what relates to this Bill now depending: His Objections are many.

1. Objection. *This Trade carries away our Woollen-Manufactures, eſpecially of late to a great value.*

Anſwer: I confeſs the *Engliſh* Merchants have had a Trade many Years to *Perſia* and *Armenia* for our Commodities formerly: The *Turkey* Merchan

Merchant carried Cloth to *Scanderoon*, and ſo to *Aleppo*, and the Carravans brought great quantities of Raw Silk, and ſold to our Mechants, and for it took our *Engliſh* Cloth: Of late, Conſiderable quantities of Cloth, and ſome other Manufactures, though I believe not one half what the *Company* is obliged to carry go by long Sea to *India*, and not finding a vent in that hot Climate, it is carried to *Perſia* and *Armenia*; But what is this to our Bill, we are not contending which Merchants ſhall have this *Perſia* Trade, but the Queſtion is, Whether this be a fit Cover for the great quantities of Wrought Manufactures from the *Bay of Bengall*, and other Places of *India*, that take off little or none of our Woollen-Cloth, but is bought with the Money *England* ſhould have to maintain the War, pay our Soldiers and Sea-men, and keep our Poor at Work.

But it may not be inſignificant, to ſhew what a Bargain we have made in changing Hands for this *Perſia* Trade, the Cloathier hath got well inſtead

inſtead of Money for his Cloth, of Good Reſponſable Merchants, he credits a publick Seal, or he hath a piece of Paper, called an *Eaſt-India Bond*, which after he has kept it till he is weary, he may take *Eaſt India* Silks for it at the Iuch of Candle to cloath his poor Spinners with, or elſe ſell his Bond for as much, or more loſs than he got by his Commodity, and the Nation made a very Indifferent Change; for whereas the *Turkey* Merchant did uſe to bring his Silk home Raw, to imploy multitudes of Throwſters, Weavers, and Seamens Wives, and all ſorts of Poor, that ſpent their Money they got upon the product of Land. Theſe *Eaſt-India* Merchants to enrich the Nobility and Gentry of *England*, carry their Raw *Perſia* Silk to the *Bay of Bengall*, &c. and work it up, that the Money it coſt in Workmanſhip may enrich the *Great Mogull*, and imploy his Poor.

2. Obj.

2. Obj. Againſt this Bill, *The* Eaſt-India *Trade is a Beneficial Trade to* England, pag. 12.

Anſw. Let us ſee the Profit: Is it the *Company* that get, or he that buys of the *Company*, or the Retailer, or the Weaver: As to the Company, I have heard for what I ſay, is by Hear-ſay, being none of them; And therefore take it for Hear-ſay, I have been informed they formerly divided Profit and Principle, and Traded upon the Credit of a publick Seal, and ſould great quantities of Goods by private Contract, and I have heard great Quantities of Guinnies have flowed about the Exchange and Coffee-Houſes, and little more than are hath come to be eſteemed worth three or four Millions, and many Honeſt Gentlemen drawn in to the Ruin of a Good Eſtate and Family; but I do not ſay the *Company*, that *Honourable Company* did this; the *Company* ſay it was the Stock-Jobbers, But if ſo, I would willingly know, whe-

whether this *Company* might not have put out an Advertiſement in ſome publick Print, to hinder ſuch an abominable Cheat: But they have now a new Subſcription of, I have heard 700000, and yet a Man may go upon the Change and buy, as I have heard, the Stock of this *Company*, for Five or Six Hundred Thouſand Pound, and no Dividend made this Seven Years. Would not any Man wonder where the Profit of this Trade is; but ſtill it is a profitable Trade, but you muſt know it is a Myſtery, and it is not convenient the Nobility and Gentry of *England* ſhould know the profit of this Trade: and indeed I dare not ſay all I believe, to be true, but ſo far as I could ever perceive any profit it is.

Firſt, In buying by private Contract, or at the Inch of Candle, great quantities of Goods by Perſons that underſtand how things are managed in the *Indies*, and Selling their Goods for 10, 20, 30, 40 *per Cent* profit to the

the Wholeſale-man, this Wholeſale man ſells them for 10, 20, 30 *per Cent* to the Retailer or Country-Chapman, the Retailer ſells them at 10, 20, 30 *per Cent* profit to the Gentry, and by this time the Gentry pays as dear always. and often much dearer than for our own Manufactures which are much better. But pray all this time, what doth the Nobleman, the Gentleman, or Trades-man or poor Farmer, or Manufacturer get.

Theſe Monopolizers, and Retailers vye with the Nobleman, hector the Gentleman, trample upon the Manufacturer, and oppoſe every thing that is for the Nation's Good, if it croſs their private Intereſt: But ſtill this is a profitable Trade to *England* in its Exportation: but what is the Bill concerned in the Exportation, doth that hinder Exportation? I own this may be made a profitable Trade by due Regulation, and therefore I am for this Bill; for *England* being the beſt Mart in *Europe* for theſe Commodi-

ties,

ties, no Wiſe Merchant will carry Goods from the better Market to a worſe, if he can help it; but the Deſign of this Bill, is to oblige the *India* Merchant to ſet up Factories to ſell Goods in *Holland*, *Hamborough*, *Germany*, *Portugal*, *Spain*, as well as Manufacturies in *India*, to make them, and by this means they will truly bring in Bulloin into *England*, as well as carry it to *India*, and till this is done, we cannot find ſuch Exportations, though for Four or Five Years paſt I have ſearched the Bills of Entry with all the Eyes I have; I have indeed found ſome Exports, and till this laſt Sale, near as many Imports, under pretence of former Exportation.

But ſtill this would have been a Profitable Trade, if the Company had not met with ſuch great Loſſes by the *French*, and ſome Ships caſt away at Sea: As to what was caſt away at Sea, it is all Merchants Chance, and as

as to what the *French* took, let us consider their first Cost, and no Man strictly Loses what he never had, and we shall find the prime Cost is 40 Thousand Pound a Ship, 8 Ships 320 Thousand Pound; but what hath been lost, if the more than usual Profit of these Last Ships be consider'd, the *Charles the Second*, and the *Hawk*, I believe, had I Time, I could bring the first Cost of the Lost Ships, and the Extravagant Profit of what came in, to near a Balance; and thus you see this Profitable Trade.

Object. 3. *This Bill designs the utter Loss of the* India *Trade.*

Answer. Pray Sir give me a good Reason for it; he gives, several Merchants are sullen, the *Dutch* and *Scots* will have it, and we shall Lose all, as we have done *Bantum*, and the *Spice Islands*; for these *Dutchmen* and *Scotchmen* are dreadful Fellows: As to the sullenness of Merchants, I would to God all the Merchants in *England* that carry out our Silver to promote and

ſet up Forreign Manufacturies, were ſo fullen as to do ſo no more, but would Employ their Stocks in ſetting up new *Species* of Manufactures in *England*, in Towns and Places where the Poor have no Employment, and I will give them my Aſſiſtance to the utmoſt of my Ability; and for their Encouragement, there is no Two Cities in *Europe*, if joined together, have ſuch a number of Men that underſtand ſo many differing *Species* of Commodities, as *London* have, though now they are deſpiſed and reduced to the utmoſt Penury, and are willing to work for bare Bread, and cannot get it, who would be glad to be their Servants? As to the *Dutch* getting the *Spice* Trade and *Bantum*, Sir, I will tell you what I have heard and believe to be true, the *Eaſt-India* Company ſet themſelves ſo intirely to proſecute Manufacture, and finding the Gentry of *England* ſo eaſie to be deceived and gulled by them, they ſlighted all other Trade in the *Indies*, and fix'd wholly to that which was like to turn to private Intereſt, with little

reſpect

reſpect to publick Good, the *Dutch* took this Opportunity to fall in with thoſe Trades that tended moſt to a General Advantage, and ſlighted Manufactures till the *Engliſh* Imported upon them, and then were forced to do ſomething this way in their own Defence, and againſt their Inclination, and are not yet very fond of them, as any Man may find, by comparing their Cargoes with ours. If I remember well, the *Martha* and *Sarah*, two of the laſt Ships that came to *England*, had much greater quantities of theſe Goods than the whole Fleet of 12 Ships that came to *Holland*, and I deſpair of ever ſeeing our *Engliſh* Merchants endeavour much Trade, that is, for Real Good to *England*, ſo long as ſuch vaſt quantities of Manufactures are allowed. And as to the *Scots* Company, I ſuppoſe its Original is well known; I will tell you my Thoughts of it; it was Contrived in *London* by Stock-jobbers, and others that deſigned only to make a noiſe; or if in earneſt, it was only to bring theſe Goods to *Scotland* Cuſtom-free,

to Cheat the King by Running them into *England* by their Pedlers, and thereby under-ſell our Company, and more effectually Ruin our Manufacturies; and Sir, I aſſure you I had this Company in my Eye in promoting this Bill, as well-knowing it would effectually Croſs the Deſigning-Men in that Company; and whenever it is paſt into a Law, there is an end of the *Scotch* Company.

Object. 4. Againſt this Bill, *No Country Manufactures made ſo Dear as the* Engliſh; *and, if we would have a Trade, we muſt make our Manufactures Cheaper.*

Anſwer. I thought I ſhould underſtand the Price of Workmanſhip as well as this Gentleman, and I will venture to Aſſert the quite contrary: Do but conſider the Price of Proviſion in *England*, and the Goodneſs of our Work, and we ſhall ſee by examining, as to our Cloth, who work Cheaper? Pray tell me, Do not our Cloth-weavers work for Five Shillings

lings *per* Week in the Country, our Cloth-dreſſers tyed up to a Penny *per* Hour, our Serge and Perpetuary-weavers for the ſame, and often leſs; our Stuff, Crape, and Fuſtian, and Flannel-weavers, for as little, and lower, according to the Price of Proviſions in the Places where they live: Nay Sir, take our Silk-weavers, and do they get more than Ten or Twelve Shillings *per* Week, and pay two Boys out of it, unleſs they make Rich Works, which take a Month or Six Weeks time before they get a Penny? And is it not reaſonable the Price of this ſort of Work, ſhould anſwer the Time they loſe? And how poorly muſt Families be Maintained with ſuch Wages? But theſe muſt be Slaves to the Humours of Proud Retailers, and Importing Merchants, though a Wiſe Management would make them great Bleſſings to *England*. Sir, what do you think of our *Engliſh* Spinſters and Winſters that work for Three or Four-pence *per* Day?

Object. 5. *We want more an Act to ſet up Publick Work-houſes.*

Anſwer. Pray, Sir, firſt find Employments for them that are willing to work, if they had it.

Object. 6. *This Bill tends to make Wooll Dear.*

Anſwer. Pray Sir, it is a great miſtake that we ſhould have Wooll dear: And what do you mean by VVooll being too dear? The Merchant never thinks *Spaniſh* VVooll too dear, or Cotton-wooll too dear: Give me leave to tell you, we have great quantities of fine long VVooll in *England*, that a Pound of it will run 20, 30, 40 Thouſand Yards in length, and make light, fine, thin, ſtrong Stuffs, much better than *India* Cotton, and *Bengall* Silks; nay, out-do by far, for fine thin Goods, any *Spaniſh* VVooll, fit to anſwer all uſes for VVomen and Children, and no Nation in the World, that ever I heard of, had ſuch a quantity;

tity; and it is a ſhame to *England* the Price is ſo low, as had I Time I could evidence fully. Sir, you call the Price of Wooll unnatural, I fear you imagine you are at the Bay of *Bengall*; it is very natural to me to give a juſt Value to the Product of my Native Country.

Object. 7. *The Publick reap no Advantage by Home Conſumption.*

Anſwer. Conſuming is not a common way of getting, but we have a Proverb, *A Penny ſaved is as good as a Penny earned*; and if we ſpend our own Produce, we ſhall ſave all our Pence that go to *India*, and by wearing our own that is over-plus, we ſhould bring our Commodities into general Repute, and by that means Export more, and we ſhould ſave by that: And what do we ſave by paying as dear for *India* Goods, as for our own, as I am ready to Evidence we do.

Object. 8. *Silk is a Manufactory of Forreign Growth, and if the Luxury of wearing Silks were Aboliſhed, it would be Beneficial to this Kingdom.*

Anſwer. Pray Sir, how do this and your other Arguments hang together? What would become of your profitable Trade of *Bengall?* Sir, give me leave to try to make the Silk Trade a profitable Trade; and ſince our Nobility and Gentry like Silk, let them wear it: Sir, our *Turky* and *Italian* Merchants carry our Cloth and Serges to *Turky* and *Italy*, and this Cloth being fully Manufactured, Employs many Thouſands of People, and takes off great quantities of Wooll. The People ſpend their Money upon the Lands, and ſo work for more; theſe Merchants bring Home Silk unmanufactured, and Employ many Thouſands of People more, and theſe alſo ſpend the Money they get upon Land; the Gentlemen wear the Silk, and thereby conſume more Wooll, and Employ twice as many People as they would

would do, if they wore Woollen Garments.

Now Sir, Is there any falſe Latin in this way of Trade? And as angry as you are with the Silk weaver, what would the *Turky* and *Italian* Merchants do with their Silk, but for them? Would you have them carry it to the Bay of *Bengall?*

Object. 9. *Two ſorts of Silks come from* India, *and only hinder the* French, Dutch, *and* Italian *Silks.*

Anſwer. Sir, I can tell you Twenty ſorts of *Engliſh* Stuffs made of Wooll, and Silk and VVooll, that they are directly oppoſite, to which neither *French*, *Dutch*, or *Italians* ever did, or can pretend to Import upon us, though we have done ſometimes upon them: And as to the *Dutch* and *French*, except Alamodes and Luteſtrings, I know of none have come to *England* for many Years from *Italy*; we have ſome, but nothing comparable to the Woollen Manufactury we carry

carry thither, though you are pleaſed to tell us, more Silks are Imported from *Holland* than from *India*. Sir, I know of none but Velvets, beſides what come by the way of *Holland* from *Italy*.

Object. 10. *We want Hands to carry on our Manufacturies.*

Anſwer. We want Employment for the Hands we have; if we had more Employments, we might eaſily have Hands enough.

Object. 11. *The* Eaſt-India *Trade doth not interfere with ſuch Manufactuaries as is the Intereſt of* England *to promote.*

Anſwer. Doth not this Trade interfere with the *Norwich*, and *London*, and *Canterbury* Trade; and with the Shallone-makers in *Eſſex*, *Suffolk*, *Hampſhire*, and the Makers of Rutteens and the new Manufactury at *Kettering* in *Northamptonſhire*, and at *Peterburrough*? Sir, I could compute theſe to

to be great numbers, and to work up 25 Thouſand Packs of *Engliſh* Wooll, and when Employed, to get two Millions of Money in a Year: And though this Money is laid out upon the produce of Land, yet the Farmer and Landlord find the Benefit; and is it not the Intereſt of this Nation, to incourage theſe Manufactories? What, nothing goe down but Cloth? I confeſs, I love that Manufactory, but what ſhall we do with *Lincolnſhire* Wooll, *&c.* You are againſt burying of it.

Object. 12. *No Laws to render this Prohibition Effectual, but ſummary Laws.*

Anſwer, If it do no good to us, it will do you no hurt; and ſince you ſee ſo far beyond others, you need not oppoſe the Bill.

Object. 13. *A Prohibition is not to be made in time of War.*

Anſwer.

Anſwer, I think it a very fit Time, when we want Mony to do what we can to get it; and the *Eaſt India* Manufactories being bought ſo Cheap, if Exported, are very like to fetch us Money; or if not Imported, will hinder the carrying Money away; and we ſhall be able to hold out the longer: Pray Sir, is it a fit time for thouſands of Families to Starve, or run to *Ireland*, or *Holland*, and there ſet up the *Engliſh* Manufactories.

Object. 14. *But the want of Employment proceeds not from* Eaſt-India *Goods, but want of Mony.*

Anſwer, That want of Money and Credit, is a great Cauſe of a ſtop to Trade; but there is this difference between the Petitioners for this Bill, and other Manufacturers in *England*; others can Trade as far as they can, in hope of a Trade at one Time or other; we have no ſuch hope, we know not, but next Month more Ships

Ships may come from the *Indies*; though we have enough and too many of their Goods already; and what ſorts they will bring, we know not; and they can under Sell us, and we cannot be ſuppoſed to carry our Silks back again to *Turkey*, *Italy*, or *Holland*; ſo that if we loſe our own Market for *Engliſh* Silk, we muſt take one for *India*; though we know we go for to Ruine our Native Country, our Friends and Relations; and though happily you may be willing to it, I believe, the Gentry of *England*, that have taken ſuch Care for the Preſervation of the Breed of Cattle, will provide for the Subſiſtence of ſome of the beſt of Manufactories that ever *England* or *Europe* had. This is what of Argument upon firſt Reading, I can find againſt this Bill in this Book; I may take a Time to examine it Paragraph by Paragraph; in the mean Time, I beg the Lords and Commons of *Englands*, to take one Inſtance, to ſhew the Profit of this Trade to *India*,

Suppoſe

Suppoſe Merchants ſhould carry from hence Clothiers, Spinners, Weavers, Sheermen, Fullers to *Spain*, and inſtead of bringing *Spaniſh* Wooll to *England* to Employ our Poor, ſhould carry our Money to *Spain* to Employ their Poor, and then bring the *Spaniſh* Cloth to *England*, and under-ſell and out-ſell our Clothiers, and when they are Impoveriſhed, and their Poor Starving, ſhould come to the Parliament for Relief, and theſe Merchants Cry out, Oh! this is a Beneficial Trade to *England*, it is Cramping Trade to touch it; the Clothiers are too numerous, we will give Money to Ruin them; the *Spaniſh* Wooll Manufactury is unnatural to *England*, as 'tis a Forreign Growth; and yet this would be a Tolerable Trade upon many Accompts, compared with that of *India*.

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WHereas this Gentleman commends the Prudence of the French King, in not allowing theſe Goods to be Imported upon France, by any of his Neighbours, but would inſinuate that they are allowed to be brought in and conſumed, if brought from India, by his own Subjects: Therefore, to ſhew his Miſtake, we have annexed the French

French *Kings Decree, by which it appears, he allows not of their Conſumption in his Country, though Imported by his own Merchants, or taken by his Men of War, or Privateers, and ſo coſt him nothing.*

A Decree of the *French* King's Councel of State, Concerning Callacoes, printed in *East-India*, or painted in the Kingdom, and other *China* and *India* Silks, Stuffs, and flowred with Gold, and Silver; given the 26th of *October*, 1686.

The King being informed, That the great quantities of Callicoes, Printed in East-India, *or Painted in the Kingdom, and other* China, *and* India *Silks, Stuffs, and Stuffs flowered with Gold and Silver, have not only given occasion of Transporting many Millions, but also have diminished the Manufactures of old established in* France, *for making of Silk, Woollen, Linnen, and Hemp-Stuffs; and, at the same*

time, the Ruin and Deſtruction of the Working People, who, by want of Work, having no Occupation, or Subſiſtence for their Families, are gone out of the Kingdom, the which being needful to provide a Remedy for, and for that effect to hinder the Trade and Sale in the Kingdom of the ſaid printed Callacoes, and India *and* China *Silks and Stuffs, nevertheleſs granting to the Owners a reaſonable time to ſell them in. Having heard the report of* Mounſier Pelletier, *Counſeller ordinary of the Kings Royal Council, and Comptroller-General of the Finances; his Majeſty, in his Council hath ordered, and doth order, that from the begining of the day of the Publication of the preſent Decree, all the Manufactures eſtabliſhed in the Kingdom for Painting of the white Callicoes ſhall be aboliſhed, and the Moulds ſerving to the Printing of them ſhall be broke and deſtroyed: His Majeſty doth forbid moſt expreſly the Re-eſtabliſhing thereof: Alſo to his Subjects the Painting of the ſaid Callicoes, and to the Engravers the making of any Moulds ſerving to the ſaid Impreſſions, under the penalty of looſing*

looſing the ſaid Callacoes, Moulds and other Utenſils, and Three Thouſand Livers Fine, to be paid without diminution, one third part to the Informer, the ſecond part to the Hoſpitals of the place, the third to the Farmers of the Revenue. And as concerning the Painted Callicoes, and other China *and* India *Silks, Stuffs, and Stuffs Flowered with Gold and Silver, his Majeſty hath granted, and doth grant, to the laſt of* December 1687 *next, to the Merchants and others, the permiſſion of Selling them as they ſhall think fit: The ſaid time being expired, his Majeſty doth forbid all Perſons, of what Quality and Condition what ſoever they are, the expoſing and ſelling thereof, and to particulars, the buying thereof, doth order, That thoſe found in all Ware-houſes and Shops ſhall be burnt, and the Proprietors condemned to the like Fine of three Thouſand Livers, paid as above ſaid. His Majeſty doth permit, nevertheleſs the Entry, Sale and Retail, of the ſaid White Callicoes in his Kingdom, paying for them the Taxes according to the decree of the Council the* 30th *of* April *laſt, which*

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